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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/459,108      | 12/10/1999  | THOMAS F. KNIGHT     | 7828-012-999        | 9655             |

20583 7590 03/12/2003

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| EXAMINER |
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DUONG, KHANH B

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2822

DATE MAILED: 03/12/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/459,108

Applicant(s)

KNIGHT ET AL.

Examiner

Khanh Duong

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the corresponding address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 November 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 85-87 and 100 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 85-87 and 100 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 November 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 6.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Response to Amendment***

This Office Action is in response to the Amendment filed November 22, 2002.

Accordingly, claims 86 and 100 were amended.

Currently, claims 85-87 and 100 are pending in the application.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 85-87 and 100 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Jacobsen (U.S. 5,673,131).

Jacobsen discloses a method of coupling signals between electronic devices (half-capacitors) in a modular electronic system (see Fig. 9b; col. 7, lines 11-32) comprising the steps of: locating a first subset of electronic devices (half-capacitor) 216 on a first semiconductor chip; locating a second subset of electronic devices (half-capacitor) 214 on a second semiconductor chip; and aligning and affixing the first and second chips so as to capacitively couple the first and second chips; wherein the first and second chips are affixed to a base substrate 210 or 212 thereby capacitively coupling the first and second chips via the substrate. Since the general conditions taught by Jacobsen are the same as those of the claims, it must be inherent that a signal related to the signals applied to the first half-capacitor 216 is received via the second half-capacitor 214.

***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed November 22, 2002 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Solely relying on the definition of the term “chip” by *The New IEEE Standard Dictionary of Electrical and Electronic Terms*, Applicants persistently argues that “the substrates of Fig. 9B of Jacobsen are ... not chips”. The Examiner must respectfully disagree. Firstly, Applicants are reminded that such description of the term “chip” was not included in the language of the claims. And secondly, Applicants are directed to column 4, lines 3-14 of Jacobsen, which states that integrated circuit components on the cylinders could be transistors, diodes, semiconductors, etc. Therefore, Jacobsen clearly discloses non-planar semiconductor chips which is designed to be cylindrical in shape to prevent problems associated with flat circuit board or chips (see col. 1, lines 16-59).

***Conclusion***

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The following US patents disclose relevant information relating to the instant invention: Narashimhan et al. '656, Denes '033, Binoche '287 and Yater et al. '484.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khanh Duong whose telephone number is (703) 305-1784. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (9:00 AM - 6:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amir Zarabian, can be reached on (703) 308-4905. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-3431 for regular communications and (703) 308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.



KBD



AMIR ZARABIAN  
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